

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND :
AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS :
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH :
BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE :
AND DISCIPLINE :

VS. :

No. C88-025

ANTHONY J. ROTELLI, JR., M.D. :

STIPULATED JUDGEMENT

This matter came on for a hearing before a duly appointed Hearing Committee of the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline on December 6, 1990. Both parties were represented by legal counsel. Based upon the report of the Investigating Committee and examination of the evidence to be presented, and in lieu of hearing, the parties agreed to the following findings, conclusions and judgement.

AGREED STATEMENT OF THE CASE

1. Pursuant to Section 5-37-5.2 of the General Laws, a complaint was filed with the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (hereinafter referred to as "Board") charging Anthony J. Rotelli, Jr., M.D., Respondent, with violation of Section 5-37-5.1 of the General Laws. An investigation was conducted by Investigating Committee II of the Board which rendered a full report.

2. The following are the stipulated findings of fact with regard to that investigation:

a) A sixty year old male with a history of urinary frequency, adult onset of diabetes mellitus and hypertension under therapy was admitted to a local hospital with a distended bladder and an enlarged prostate gland.

b) The diabetes mellitus was uncontrolled prior to surgery.

c) The patient was seen by a medical consultant for an evaluation of the patient's diabetes mellitus. The patient was cleared for surgery by the medical consultant.

d) Respondent operated on this patient and performed a transurethral resection of the patient's prostate gland.

e) Anesthesia was begun at 9:30 a.m., cystoscopy was performed. This was followed by prostatic resection and surgery, anesthesia was terminated at 12:10 p.m.

f) A large amount of bleeding was observed towards the end of the surgical procedure.

g) The duration of the surgery for the prostatic resection was in excess of the recommended standard.

h) Following the surgical procedure, the patient continued to bleed heavily and the patient's hemoglobin level dropped despite several blood transfusions.

i) An hour following the surgery, the patient was taken back to the operating room to locate the source of the bleeding; however, no specific bleeding points could be identified to control the blood loss.

j) The patient received a total of nine units of packed red blood cells and six units of fresh frozen plasma and was also given Amicar, which failed to stop the bleeding.

k) A Hematology consultation was requested, but not obtained by the Respondent.

l) Blood gas determinations revealed significant acidosis, which was not corrected by the Respondent.

m) No further procedures were carried out, notwithstanding the fact that there were other available and recommended procedures available to the Respondent.

n) Approximately six and one-half hours following completion of the initial surgery, the patient developed a cardiopulmonary arrest.

o) The patient could not be resuscitated and was pronounced dead within fifteen minutes of the cardiopulmonary arrest.

3. A review of twenty-two (22) other consecutive cases of prostatic surgery performed by Respondent was made by the Board. In those cases, the medical treatment administered by Respondent appeared to be within the acceptable standard of care.

4. Respondent is a physician licensed and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Rhode Island, allopathic license number 4945. Respondent's mailing address is 1525 Atwood Avenue, Johnston, Rhode Island.

5. Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board and has agreed to remain under the jurisdiction of the Board.

6. Respondent hereby acknowledges that he has waived:

(a) The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Board;

(b) The right to produce witnesses and evidence in his behalf at a hearing;

(c) The right to cross-examine witnesses;

(d) The right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;

(e) The right to further procedural steps except for those specifically contained herein;

(f) Any and all rights of appeal of this Stipulated Judgement;

(g) Any objection to the fact that this Stipulated Judgement will be presented to the Board for consideration and review and will not be binding until ratification by the Board;

(h) Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the Board to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in order to adequately review this Stipulated Judgement.

7. This Stipulated Judgement shall become a public record once it is accepted by the Board. It shall be published in a manner as the Board, in the exercise of its discretion, shall determine.

8. Acceptance of this Stipulated Judgement constitutes an admission by the Respondent of the facts set forth herein.

9. Failure to comply with this Stipulated Judgement once accepted by the Board shall subject the Respondent to further disciplinary action.

10. Respondent voluntarily accepts the Board's sanction of a reprimand, as provided in Section 5-37-6.3 of the General Laws of

the State of Rhode Island and imposition of a fine of \$500.00 as reimbursement for administrative costs incurred, said fine to be paid within 30 days of the date hereon.

11. Respondent shall notify the Board, in writing, of any change in his address.

JUDGEMENT

1. Respondent is hereby issued a reprimand in accordance with Section 5-37-6.3 of the General Laws.

2. Respondent is directed to pay administrative costs of \$500.00 to the Board within 30 days of entry of judgement by the Board.

Entered this 6th day of December, 1990.

Edmund Hackman M.D.
Edmund Hackman, M.D., Chairman

Frances P. Conklin
Frances P. Conklin, M.D.

Sherman Berger
Sherman Berger